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For Immediate Release
July 26, 2006

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Sen. Allen announces Northern Michigan and Eastern U.P. road projects

LANSING – Communities throughout the 37th Senate District will benefit from a road improvement plan encompassing 210 projects across the state, repairing roads across the state and providing jobs, said Sen. Jason Allen, R- Traverse City.

“This program will help improve the quality of our roads in Northern Michigan and the Eastern Upper Peninsula,” Allen said. “Our roads take a beating compared to the rest of the state due to seasonal temperature swings, the amount of sand, salt and ice remover used over the winter plus the added wear from snow plows. This funding will help make sure that these roads receive the necessary repairs and improvements they need.”

Local projects include:

- Cheboygan County will receive \$232,580 to repair Black River Road;
- Chippewa County will receive approximately \$150,800 for work on Tilson Road;
- Emmet County will receive \$55,440 for repairs on Mitchell and Bear River roads;
- Grand Traverse County will receive about \$401,550 for work on South Airport and River roads; and
- Sault Ste. Marie will receive approximately \$632,930 for repairs on E. Spruce Street and W. Portage Avenue.

This is the first time state money will be used to fund city and county transportation projects including the physical and engineering construction. The required non-construction items such as preliminary engineering, right-of-way purchases and other environmental studies will not be funded through the program.

Projects designated as high priority projects ready to be constructed in 2006 or 2007 were given first consideration along with local federal aid projects scheduled for construction in 2007 and 2008 that could be advanced a year forward.

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